

IN RECOGNITION OF LILLI REY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 27, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lilli Rey who was chosen as the 2015 Citizen of the Year by the Hillsborough Schools' Associated Parents Group. This extraordinary honor is reserved for an individual who has made sustained and significant contributions to the Hillsborough community, in particular to the education and well-being of our children. I can't think of a more deserving person than Lilli to receive this honor. She is the personification of generosity, grace and getting things done.

I have watched and admired her dedication and commitment since Lilli moved to Hillsborough two decades ago. I feel very fortunate to count Lilli as one of my closest friends and neighbors. The word "no" barely exists in her vocabulary; if there is a project that needs help, Lilli will take it on and bring it to a successful conclusion. She has given her time and energy to countless causes. She served as the President and Executive Board Member for the North School Parent Group, the 2010 Town of Hillsborough Centennial Co-Chair, Girl Scout Leader, 4th Grade North Yosemite Trip Chair, and Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance Tickets Chair. Lilli is part of the heartbeat of the town.

To say that Lilli loves children is an understatement. As the very proud mother of four—Zach, Zoe, Sadie and Cassie—she is devoted to them completely and always puts them first. But her love is not reserved exclusively for her own children, she shares the same care and tenderness for other children, always striving to contribute to their well-being.

Lilli has also been a steadfast and generous supporter of our local schools, Shelter Network, the San Mateo Community Hospital Foundation, NARAL and Protect Our Defenders Foundation. These groups protect the rights and dignity of our children, victims of domestic violence, the homeless, women, victims of sexual assault in the military, and health care for low income women—issues that are very near and dear to my heart and issues that have created a very deep bond between Lilli and me.

To watch Lilli at an event is to watch a symphony conductor. Even though she is working harder than anyone, she makes it look easy and harmonic. She is in the right place at the right time and she makes everything flow perfectly.

Any organization is lucky to have Lilli on board. She will identify what needs to get done and get it done while improving the organization and the community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to recognize an exceptional woman and philanthropist who tirelessly gives back and never asks for anything in return. Lilli Rey is a treasured gift to the community and truly deserves to be honored as the 2015 Hillsborough Schools' Citizen of the Year.

DON NELSON: A LOCAL LEGEND IN BROADCASTING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 27, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to wish a Houston icon, constituent and TV anchor Don Nelson a happy retirement.

Don has been a voice to Texans for 39 years and I have known him most of that time. In those 39 years, Don has just about done it all.

He did broadcasting at a radio station in Pennsylvania after serving in the U.S. Air Force for 4 years.

And then worked in radio in West Virginia and New Mexico before he made it to the promise land, Texas when ABC 13 News hired him.

From hosting "Dialing For Dollars," "Good Morning Houston," covering traffic, and interviewing celebrities, sports stars and rodeo entertainers, Don is quite the commentator.

Don's genuine, happy personality and work ethic really have made Houston's morning news number one.

Our morning commutes won't be the same without him.

Hats off to you, Don.

You can now sleep in and enjoy your morning coffee.

The people of Houston extend our deepest appreciation.

Congrats on your retirement, you have earned it.

Best wishes in the next chapter of your life.

You are quite the legend in local broadcasting.

And that's just the way it is.

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL'S "HOLY SMOKE" BBQ COOK-OFF**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 27, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the annual Church of St. Paul's "Holy Smoke" BBQ Cook-Off which takes place each March 6th and 7th, 2015 in the city of Mission, Texas.

The "Holy Smoke" BBQ Cook-Off is an International Barbecue Cookers Association state championship event; the occasion features a festive combination of good music and good eating, with proceeds going to fund scholarships for area youth.

Talented barbecue chefs from Texas face off to see who can cook up the tastiest brisket, pork spareribs, and chicken, along with beans, fajitas, pan de campo, and desserts. The "Holy Smoke" BBQ Cook-Off is an exciting time for young and old alike and is a much-anticipated gathering for residents of South Texas due to the scholarship assistance it provides to students in furthering their education.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize this celebration of Lone Star State-style food and music.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN L. CURTICE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 27, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and celebrate the retirement of Fresno County Sheriff Deputy, Christian L. Curtice. Deputy Curtice served an honorable thirty-three years with the Fresno County Sheriff's Office, and his service is to be commended.

Christian Curtice was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1959, and subsequently moved with his family to California. He graduated from the Pacific Grove High School in 1978. A few years after high school, Christian had moved to the Central Valley and was sworn in as a deputy sheriff with the Fresno County Sheriff's Office in 1982. The first few years Deputy Curtice served with the Fresno County Sheriff's office, he also pursued a college education. In 1986 he graduated from California State University, Fresno with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminology. Three years later he became a detective with the Sheriff's Crimes Against Persons Unit and became a member of the California Homicide Investigators Association. In 1992 he was promoted to Deputy IV, and was assigned as Field Training Officer in the Patrol Division in 2001.

During his years of service, Deputy Curtice has received many awards and commendations, including being the first deputy at the Fresno County Sheriff's Office to receive the California Highway Patrol's "10851 Award" for vehicle theft recovery in 1989. In 1992, he was the recipient of the American Legion's "Outstanding Law Officer of the Year" award for the Central Valley area, and in 1993 he was the recipient of the American Legion's "Outstanding Law Officer of the Year" for the State of California.

Apart from his awards, Deputy Curtice has been recognized in many instances in which he was integral to solving cases and saving lives through his use of ingenuity and bravery, often putting his own life at risk. Deputy Curtice was one of the principal investigators on the Ewell triple murder in the Sunnyside area of Fresno County. The case received major national news coverage and eventually led to the arrest and conviction of Dana Ewell and Joel Radovich. Following their conviction, Deputy Curtice and his partner, Detective Souza, wrote the book "Catch Me If You Can," which chronicled the investigation.

Outside of his position as Deputy and Detective, Deputy Curtice has been a firm believer in giving back to his community. In 2008, he worked with the Central California Blood Center to launch the Holiday Heroes Blood Drive, which is now held every year during the week before Christmas, and continues to become increasingly more successful. He also made it a personal priority to revamp the Fresno County Sheriff's ailing website by hiring a dedicated IT specialist. Working with the IT specialist, Deputy Curtice helped launch a redesigned, user friendly website. Additionally, by creating new Facebook and Twitter pages for the agency, Deputy Curtice played an integral role in ensuring the Sheriff's Office is able stay in contact with the community they serve.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing